

Message Text

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8547

INFO DOD WASHDC

CINCPAC HONOLULU

COMUSJAPAN FUCHU JAPAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 15700

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR JA

SUBJ: STATUS REPORT ON VARIOUS BASE CONSOLIDATION PROJECTS IN JAPAN

SUMMARY: JAPAN BASE CONSOLIDATION PROJECTS ALL ARE EXTREMELY ACTIVE AND ARE RUNNING MORE OR LESS ON SCHEDULE. END SUMMARY.

1. SECSTATE HAS REQUESTED EMBASSY TO PROVIDE MONTHLY STATUS REPORTS ON OUR VARIOUS BASE CONSOLIDATION PROJECTS IN JAPAN. THE FOLLOWING COMPRISES THE STATUS REPORT FOR NOVEMBER.

2. KPCP -- KPCP HAS COMPLETED SOME PHASES BUT IS SOMEWHAT BEHIND SCHEDULE. GOJ IS PURSUING VIGOROUSLY. DURING PAST SEVERAL MONTHS COMUSJAPAN HAD DETECTED EVIDENCE OF SLIPPAGE OF GOJ CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE FOR INITIAL KPCP PROJECTS OF HEADQUARTERS BUILDING AND TELEPHONE EXCHANGE. THE SLIPPAGE IS ATTRIBUTABLE TO GOJ FINANCING LAGS. NEW HQ BUILDING, WHICH PACES MUCH OF REMAINING KPCP ACTIVITY, WAS SCHEDULED FOR INITIAL CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY IN EARLY OCTOBER. SITE PREPARATION FOR HQ BUILDING BEGAN LATE NOVEMBER 73. IN EARLY NOVEMBER COMUSJAPAN ESTIMATED SLIPPAGE AS APPROACHING TWO MONTHS AND REQUESTED EMBASSY ASSISTANCE WITH GOJ TO HAVE SCHEDULE ACCELERATED. DFAA HAS NOW UNDERTAKEN TO WORK ON THESE PROJECTS ON A 24-HOUR PER DAY SCHEDULE BEGINNING EARLY

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DEMEMBER AND HOPES TO COMPLETE PROJECTS IN JULY 1974,

APPROXIMATELY 30 DAYS BEHIND SCHEDULE. DEFINITION AND DESIGN OF OTHER KPCP PROJECTS ALSO GENERALLY ON SCHEDULE BUT SHOWING SOME POSSIBILITIES FOR SAME KIND OF SLIPPAGE AS IN FIRST TWO PROJECTS. EMBASSY AND COMUSJAPAN WILL BE MONITORING CLOSELY.

JFAP -- PHYSICAL CONSTRUCTION WORK ON JFAP PROJECTS AT MISAWA, IWAKUNI, KADENA AND FUTENMA HAS BEEN DELAYED SOMEWHAT FROM EARLIER GOJ SCHEDULE BY LOCAL ISSUES AT EACH SITE. AT MISAWA, SURPRISE USE OF BASE AND RIPSAP RANGE BY NAVY AIRCRAFT FROM MIDWAY CREATED SOME ADMINISTRATIVE CONFUSION BETWEEN DFAA AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES WHICH NOW APPEARS TO BE RESOLVED. AT IWAKUNI, DELAY HAS BEEN OCCASIONED BY NEED TO WORK OUT FORMULA WHEREBY GOJ CAN CONSTRUCT NEW BEQ AND STILL BE ABLE TO JUSTIFY NEW CONSTRUCTION AS REPLACEMENT FOR EXISTING BEQ. AT KADENA CONSTRUCTION DELAYED BY NECESSITY PERSUADE KADENA CITY MAYOR AND CITY ASSEMBLY NOT TO OPPOSE CONSTRUCTION. KADENA OPPOSITION BASED ON KADENA CITY HOPE THAT AREA OF KADENA BASE NORTH OF RUNWAYS EVENTUALLY COULD BE RELEASED TO KADENA CITY. JDA DIRECTOR-GENERAL YAMANAKA PERSONALLY AND US COMMANDERS INTERVENED TO RESOLVE ISSUE, AND DFAB INTENDS LET CONTRACT BID IN EARLY DECEMBER FOR CONSTRUCTION WORK TO BEGIN IN FEBRUARY. PRIMARY DELAY AT FUTENMA CAUSED BY DFAA CONCLUSION THAT MORE WORK THAN PREVIOUSLY PLANNED WOULD BE NECESSARY TO PRODUCE JET-CAPABLE RUNWAY. TEMPORARY SHIFT IN ISSUE NOW HAS BEEN RESOLVED; AND BID FOR CONTRACT FOR FUTENMA CONSTRUCTION LIKEWISE WILL BE ISSUED IN EARLY DECEMBER. TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS TO RESOLVE DIFFERENCES IN COST ESTIMATES FOR REMAINING JFAP CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS ARE SCHEDULED TO BEGIN DECEMBER 4, AND WE HOPE THAT OUR RESPECTIVE ESTIMATES CAN BE RECONCILED BY GOJ DEADLINE OF DECEMBER 15 (SEPTEL). PROGRESS THESE DISCUSSIONS WILL BE REPORTED CURRENTLY TO WASHINGTON.

OKINAWA INCREMENTAL BASE CONSOLIDATION PROJECT -- EMBASSY AWAITING SERVICES REACTION TO GOJ POSITION PRESENTED IN SCG AD HOC FACILITIES COMMITTEE ON NOVEMBER 2 (EMBASSY RETRANSMITTING FOR DEPARTMENT INFORMATION COMUSJAPAN 070407Z NOV 73, SUMMARIZING GOJ PROPOSAL). EMBASSY EXPECTS RECEIVE SERVICES REACTIONS TO GOJ PROPOSAL IN EARLY DECEMBER TO PROVIDE BASIS
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FOR FURTHER DISCUSSIONS IN SCG AD HOC GROUP TO REFINE AND NARROW THE ISSUES. SUBSEQUENTLY, TECHNICAL NEGOTIATIONS WILL BE CONDUCTED IN FACILITIES SUBCOMMITTEE OF JOINT COMMITTEE.
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